Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1006
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL CAIRO 16241

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLOS
SUBJECT: LOS: EGYPTIAN PARTICIPATION IN LOS MEETING IN
NEW YORK 8/21

REF: USUN NEW YORK 2706 (NOTAL)

1. DIRECTOR MFA LEGAL DEPARTMENT, NABIL EL ARABY TOLD POLCOUNS JULY 1 THAT EGYPTIAN DELEGATION TO SUBJECT MEETING WOULD MOST LIKELY BE HEADED BY UN PERMREP ABDUL MEGUID. DR. HAMED SULTAN DOES NOT WISH TO GO, MAINLY BECAUSE OF HIS OWN AND HIS WIFE'S HEALTH. FURTHERMORE, SULTAN IS ALMOST 70 AND FOUND LAST MEETING EXTREMELY STRENUOUS. EL ARABY SAID HE TOO DID NOT EXPECT TO ATTEND BECAUSE BETWEEN NOW AND THEN HE IS SCHEDULED TO SPEND WEEK IN VIENNA, WEEK IN NEW DELHI AND ATTEND NAC IN BELGRADE.

2. KEY GOE DELEGATE TO COMMITTEE TWO, DR. SHEHAB HAS JUST DEPARTED FOR LUCRATIVE POSITION WITH KUWAITI GOVERNMENT AND ALSO WILL BE UNAVAILABLE. TWO OTHER USUAL MEMBERS OF DELEGATION, COUNSELORS MOHAMMED BARADEI AND HUSSEIN HASSOUNA WILL BE TRANSFERRED THIS SUMMER AND PROBABLY NOT AVAILABLE. CONFIDENTIAL

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3. EL ARABY CLEARLY DISTURBEED BY LACK OF QUALIFIED PERSONNEL, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE HE AGREES WITH AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON THAT GENEVA MEETING MADE SUFFICIENT PROGRESS THAT THERE NOW IS SOME HOPE FOR EVENTUAL CONCLUSION OF TREATY. ONE POSSIBILITY DISCUSSED WITH POLCOUNS WAS TO GET MFA MINSTATE BOUTROS GHALI INTERESTED IN LOS AFFAIRS.

GHALI HAS NOT PREVIOUSLY PARTICIPATED IN LOS MEETINGS, BUT HE IS KNOWLEDGEABLE ON SUBJECT (E.G. HE ORGANIZED LOS SEMINAR IN PREVIOUS CAPACITY AS DIRECTOR AHRAM STRATEGIC STUDIES CENTER) AND HIS BACKGROUND IS INTERNATIONAL LAW. EL ARABY WILL PURSUE THIS POSSIBILITY WITH GHALI. AMBASSADOR, TOO, INTENDS TO GIVE GHALI COPY OF RICHARDSON LETTER TO SULTAN AT EARLY OPPORTUNITY. EILTS

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